

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ernest F. Chapman at (202) 408-4096 on 09/19/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 30. A computer readable medium encoded with a computer program product or group of computer program products that can be executed by a processing system, comprising one or more code modules capable of performing the method according to claim 16.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-29 are allowed.

Consider claims 16 and 27, the most relevant prior art record Suzuki et al. (US 2005/0057452 A1) teaches a method for planning a telecommunications network for radio equipment including a plurality of cells arranged on a geographic area, wherein each one of the cells comprises a set of pixels adapted to receive radio signals radiated by a respective radio base station (Abstract, Paragraph [0012]). However, Suzuki alone or in combination **fails to teach or**

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suggest wherein radio equipment located in a cell is subjected to receive common pilot channel signals broadcast by a plurality of radio base stations, comprising, for at least one of said cells:

determining an interference level provided by nearby cells to the traffic offered to the pixels of said cell related to the power difference between pilot channels broadcast by the radio base station of said cell and pilot channels broadcast by the respective radio base stations of nearby cells; and

determining an area comprising the pixels of the cell in which the network is able to provide predetermined services to the radio equipment located therein, depending on said determined interference level and by comparison with a predetermined level of tolerated interference,

said interference level provided by the nearby cells to the traffic offered to the pixels of said cell being estimated by using at least a coefficient depending on the amount of expected traffic in the pixels of said cell.

Claims 17-26 and 28-29 are allow as being dependent on the independent claim 16.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KIET DOAN whose telephone number is (571)272-7863. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kiet Doan/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Charles N. Appiah/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617